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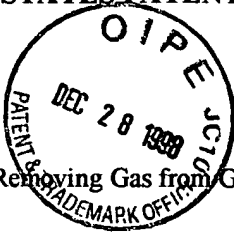
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Alexander Brockhoff

Serial No.: 08/938,173

Filed: 9/26/97

Title: Method and Device for Removing Gas from Gas-Containing Blood



Group Art Unit: 1723

Examiner: S. Kim

Attorney Docket No: 1267

Date of Deposit: 12/22/98

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service, with sufficient postage, as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington D.C. 20231:

Signature: Stephanie J. Smith

Printed Name: Stephanie J. Smith

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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GROUP 1700

Response to Office Action

Dear Sir:

This response is made to the Office Action mailed July 22, 1998. Allowance of this application is respectfully solicited in view of the following amendments and remarks.

In the Specification

Please amend the specification as follows to correct typographical errors:

On page 3, line 3, delete "pressure" and insert therefor -- patient--.

On page 4, line 28, delete "22" and insert therefor -- 32--.

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A method of removing gas from gas containing blood, comprising:
- introducing gas containing blood into a helical, circularly extending, gradually narrowing cross section, blood inlet channel and moving the blood through the narrowing cross section of the channel for accelerating [the] blood flow through the channel as the channel narrows;